

Selah City Council
Study Session
March 28, 2006

Mayor Jones introduced Jeff Louman, President of Huibregtse, Louman Associates, Inc. at 3:01pm. Mr. Louman addressed the Council regarding current HLA projects for the City of Selah. He began with Project 94030A, the Crusher Canyon Road, stating they hope to go to bid for bids in mid April. The right-of-way has been certified by the state; they are wrapping up things with the federal money that's involved, and now will start on the State Transportation Improvements Board money. He stated this project was originally designed in early 90's from Mapleway to downtown, and the City has tried repeatedly to make that happen. He stated last year the City was successful in securing a Transportation Improvement Board application. He stated this project will make some dramatic changes. The Hovde hill will be carved out, and the grade up through the Anchor Loop the whole roadway area will come up about four feet, reconfiguring Hillcrest and Naches. He stated improvements will end at the City limits. He noted Hillcrest will come west and not be as steep as it is presently. He stated Geotech is the retaining wall designer that is working on Naches. He explained the steps necessary to safely secure the retaining wall. He stated the roadway will take the entire summer, and it will be necessary to detour traffic around Slade to Pleasant Hill.

He continued with Projects 01016 A, B, C, Pressure Zone 4 System Improvements, noting the booster station that pumps water up to the new reservoir has been in operation for a few weeks now. The Heritage Hills booster station pump is no longer in operation; water is being provided to Heritage Hills through pressure reducing valves. He stated the Telemetry system has been revised to include these new reservoirs and booster stations improve

Allen Schmid noted it would be good if the Council could tour that facility; everybody would appreciate taking a look at the booster station.

Jeff Louman stated it is a multipurpose station, and in the future steps will be taken to improve the old booster station. He moved on to Project 01054, the Public Works Shop. He stated HLA is doing the onsite civil work on the project.

Joe Henne stated they are finalizing a floor plan and will bring a rendering to the Council. He stated Frank has been comparing notes with the Firing Center for requirements of an EOC.

Jeff Louman moved on to Project 04077-C, Carlon Park Softball Fields, stating the softball field lights will be standing tomorrow. He noted the new concession stand will not be available for the April 28th tournament, but old concession stand will.

Allen Schmid stated on April 12 they will blacktop around concession stand and bleachers. He reported the roofing will be completed Thursday and Friday. He suggested putting a news release together. He stated Dwinnells is doing the signs, and Pepsi is donating the scoreboards. He noted GYGSA has donated much time and effort as well.

Jeff Louman moved on to Project 05051-C, North Park Drive. He noted the asphalt companies just opened and he has received a price from Superior for paving. He stated the pavers are in. Southpark Drive is a possibility for the future, and Superior has entered a bid on that. He stated it is difficult to anticipate what prices will be next year.

Mayor Jones introduced Theodore W. Pooler, HLA Vice President for Water and Wastewater Engineering. Mr. Pooler handed out copies of a task list sheet used by HLA. He referred to Project 94023, the Comprehensive Sanitary Sewer Plan, noting the first numbers indicate the year the project was begun. He noted in 2002 the City budgeted money to complete the sewer plan this year.

He moved on to Project 98073B, Wastewater Treatment Plant improvements, noting they will advertise for bids on that the middle of April, shooting for completion of construction by the end of the year. He stated the dryer has been purchased and is put together; however, the building will not be ready. He noted it could be stored on site here, but the builder has agreed to store it in Texas. In response to a question from Council Member Harris, he noted the cost of the dryer was \$570,000. He stated they have run into a snag trying to get natural gas service into the dryer site. He stated in January the main circuit breaker going into the plant exploded, and because of the age of that equipment, the electrical engineer has recommended doing electrical improvements now for safety reasons. He stated this improvement should be eligible for Public Works Trust Fund monies.

He moved on to Project 01057, noting the Selah Ditch Temperature Study, is part of the Total Maximum Daily Load analysis being done. This continuing project should bring some relief in allowable pollutant levels, i.e. temperature, oxygen and fecal coliform. He stated the Selah Ditch runs parallel to the railroad tracks from the Treatment Plant to the Yakima River. The Selah Ditch has been listed by the Department of Ecology as needing improvement.

Council Member Keith Larson suggested if we piped that water to the river, we would be allowed a mix zone on the river.

Ted Pooler said the benefit now is that the mixing zone is the entire length of the ditch.

He moved on to Project 05042, the Street Maintenance Program, noting Selah is proactive in spending dollars each year to improve streets in the community. He stated they are looking at redoing Hillcrest and Lookout Point Road from Mullins Road to the top of the hill.

He moved on to Project 05069, the Bass Ranch property donated to Fire District, stating HLA needs to do surveying and short plat work.

Project 05109, Storm Water Management, the City of Selah will be required to have a Phase 2 NPDES permit. The City received a \$75,000 grant to implement Storm Water Management Phase 2. He stated they are now working on the grant agreement with the DOE to complete that. That project will include ordinances for construction of stormwater control, ordinances for elimination of illicit discharge of materials and an ordinance that will develop the City's stormwater plan.

Mr. Pooled referred to Project 06006, noting HLA is working with the City on the Marudo property.

He referred to Project 05134 and said the City is looking at providing sewer and water extension to Selah Loop.

Regarding Project 06006S, 2006 General Wastewater Services, Mr. Pooler provided maps of sewer system. He stated the Comprehensive Water Plan is due to be completed by December 20, 2006.

The last item on the list is New Well #8 to be built near the new Public Works facility coverable under the state Drinking Water state Revolving Fund Law.

Mayor Jones thanked Mr. Louman and Mr. Pooler for their presentations.

Parks & Recreation Director Jeff Hagler passed out the Selah Teen Center handout from the Parks & Recreation brochure and a copy of the agreement that makes the Teen Center possible. He thanked the Council for being a part of this partnership. He introduced Donna Garner, President of Selah C.A.N. and Lisa Belles, who has worked at the Teen Center for quite a while. He stated he wants to review what's been going on at the Teen Center and what he envisions.

Lisa Belles thanked Council for their support. She stated she's been there this year and last, and has seen the Teen Center move from 4-12 kids on a daily basis to now, when 207 kids have walked in the doors since January this year. She stated because there are so many coming to the Teen Center, they are no longer able to care for kids sufficiently. She indicated they are surviving, but they need help in moving from where they are to where they hope to be.

Council Member Brian Harris asked how the attendance numbers are separated.

Lisa responded that she and Sarah keep roll everyday for skatepark or in the building. She said they keep a list of names and addresses as well as their photos, and students are required to sign in every day.

Council Member Keith Larson asked what kinds of services Ms. Belles would like to implement.

Lisa responded that Ellensburg has Americorps staff whose full time job is running the teen center. She said it's important to have staff outdoors and indoors, and she emphasized that staffing is major concern. She said she'd like to see money for programs such as trips out of town. She said ideally she would like to see a full-time adult to supervise the teen center and supervise staff.

Jeff Hagler handed out budget pages, noting he has applied for two Americorps positions this year. He noted he would like additional staff for the 2006-2007 School Year. He noted the bottom line shows about a \$16,000 shortage. He compared this budget to the City of Ellensburg's budget.

Council Member Denise Nichols asked about the commitment from School District 119. Mr. Hagler stated the district has put up \$2500 as well as facilities. She noted the City pays the utilities.

Council Member Harris asked if the Teen Center has concessions. Mr. Hagler responded that they did initially, but had problems with that, so now they provide only a pop machine.

Council Member Paul Overby asked what means are available to provide additional monies for activities. Mr. Hagler responded that he has gone to service organizations such as Kiwanis and Lions for funds.

City Supervisor Frank Sweet asked if there is a need for a full-time person to supervise skateboarding. Mr. Hagler responded they need someone for three hours daily, just as they need a three-hour person inside.

Council Member Harris asked what dates the Teen Center is open. Mr. Hagler responded that the center is open when school is in session and closed when it is not, with exception of some special activities during summer months.

Council Member Nichols asked why the Teen Center is not open for Spring Break. Mr. Hagler responded that they've tried that in the past and had very poor attendance. He indicated transportation is a problem for kids when school is not in session.

Council Member Overby praised the success of the Teen Center, and said he would like to see the city cough up additional funding and would like to see additional involvement with the school district since this is not a City of Selah issue.

The City Supervisor asked if it would make sense to invite school board members in to discuss this issue in a study session.

Council Member Nichols recommended that be done after the M & O election.

Mayor Jones asked Frank Sweet to get together with Superintendent Parsons to set that meeting up. He noted some kids seem to devalue the property.

Donna Garner stated kids do require some supervision, but the Teen Center is accomplishing its goal.

Mayor Jones told a story about one day when Jeff Hagler gave kids bags to pick up trash and withheld skating privileges from those who refused to do so. He thanked Jeff for keeping the kids honest as well as for today's presentation.